



CITY OF

SEQUIM News

November 2012



Meeting Dates & Locations

City Council Regular Meeting Transit Center	2nd & 4th Monday 6:00 p.m.
City Council Study Session Transit Center (when required)	2nd & 4th Monday 5:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Transit Center	Tuesday, November 6 6:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board PW—615 N. 5th Ave.	2nd Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Lodging Tax Advisory Comm. Transit Center Conf. Room	Quarterly—Next Meeting December 14 10:00 a.m.
Centennial Committee Transit Center Conf. Room	3rd Wednesday 1:00 p.m.

The Sequim Centennial Celebration has Begun!

Upcoming Activities Include:

Sequim Reflections Art Show at the MAC throughout November 683-8110
www.macsequim.org

Sequim Arts Member Show & Sale—
November 1—4 St. Luke's Episcopal
Parish Hall

Geocoin Challenge Event—November 17 9:00 a.m. to
1:00 p.m. at Pioneer Park

Paint a Centennial Tile —Open Aire Market November,
17, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Guy Cole Center and De-
cember 1, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Boys & Girls Club

Centennial Cookbook—The Centennial Committee is
producing a historical, anecdotal cookbook to celebrate
the rich history and agricultural heritage of the City of
Sequim and the Sequim-Dungeness Valley. Whether
you've lived in Sequim for two years or 50, share your
story along with a family photo and favorite recipe.
Deadline for entries is **December 31, 2012**.

Contact Communications and Marketing Director
Barbara Hanna at 681-3422 or bhanna@sequimwa.gov

Centennial Merchandise is available for purchase at
City Hall, 152 W. Cedar Street, and at the Chamber of
Commerce Visitor Information Center at 192 E. Wash-
ington Street.

Information about all of the Centennial activities and events
can be found at www.sequimwa.gov or contact City Clerk
Karen Kuznek-Reese at 681-3428 or
kkuznek@sequimwa.gov

Upcoming Public Hearings

November 13 — 1) Amending Building Height Limits
2) City of Sequim/TBD on Proposed Budget & Revenue
Sources
3) Adopting Property Tax Levy 4) Fees & Charges
November 26 —1) Final Hearing on 2013 City & TBD
Budget 2) 2012 City & TBD Budget Amendments

City Offices Will be Closed on

Monday, November 12 in observation of Veterans Day
Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23
For the Thanksgiving Holiday

Prepare your Pipes for Fall and Winter Winterize your outside water connections.

Unhook any attached hoses from outdoor taps and drain
any remaining water from the hose. Cover the taps with a
Styrofoam connector, to help prevent freezing.

If you have pipes that are not underground, dis-
connect them from the water source if possible. If
disconnecting them is not possible, put insulation on or
over the exposed piping.

Going out of town for a couple months?

If you live in Sequim City limits and are on City
water, consider having your water shut-off at the meter by
the City. There's a one-time charge of \$40.00 (current
rate through December 2012). You would only be billed a
stand-by fee of \$21.37 for water and \$21.37 for sewer
(rates through December 2012) per month.

You will need to come into City Hall and sign paper- work to have your water turned off.

After the meter has been shut-off, there may still be wa-
ter in the lines. Turn on a faucet until no remaining water
comes through, then turn off the faucet. If possible, turn
off the water tap coming into the house, if you have one.

When you are ready to return, call Sequim City Hall at
360-683-4139 at least two (2) business days prior to your
arrival to have the water turned on. **Doing any of these
things may help save you money, and provide peace of
mind.**

The City is Seeking Applications for Boards and Commissions

The Planning Commission is seeking applications from City
residents to fill one vacant position. The Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board is seeking two City residents to fill vacancies on
the Board. Applications are at City Hall or www.sequimwa.gov

Budget Message to City of Sequim Citizens From City Manager Steve Burkett

I am pleased to present the City's 2013 Annual Budget which was presented to the Sequim City Council on October 1, 2012. The City Council has spent the past month reviewing the contents of the budget and is scheduled to adopt the budget on November 26, 2012. The proposed budget is the annual financial roadmap for the City, and represents our continued commitment to prudent fiscal management, effective service delivery, and to providing you, our citizens, with an affordable, quality of life.

Balanced General Fund

Projected General Fund revenues and expenses for 2013 are balanced at just over \$8 million. Although General Fund revenues are projected to decline by 3.2% (\$269k) over 2012 revenues, the proposed budget also shows a reduction in expenditures by 4.8% (\$396k) over 2012. Balancing the fund was accomplished by each department making reductions in operating costs, a small reduction in staffing, and requiring non-union employees to share in the premium cost of their health care insurance.

Financing Plan for Police Station/City Hall

The proposed 2013 budget includes a plan to finance a new Police Station/City Hall project. With the recent approval of the public safety sales tax by the voters, and adoption of the budget, the project will move forward into design and construction by the end of 2013.

Utility Rate Increase

The proposed budget recommends a 3% rate increase for the Sewer Utility and a 4% increase for the Water Utility. The proposed sewer increase represents \$1.61 (low tier user) or \$1.87 (high tier user) per month for single-family residential rate payers. The proposed rate increase for water represents approximately \$1.09 per month for average single-family usage. We have also proposed to continue a low income discount policy which reduces utility bills in 2013 for those who qualify for the rate reduction. (See related article below.)

The budget also includes the recommendation to increase the property tax levy by the allowed 1%.

Despite the continued slow economic recovery, the 2013 proposed annual budget addresses the City's highest priority – service and capital needs and will allow us to achieve our key goals. It also puts in place a financing plan to allow construction of a new Police Station/City Hall that will serve the community for several decades. And, it supports our efforts for continued financial stability in future years. To review the entire budget, visit www.sequimwa.gov.

Budget Calendar

November 13, 2012

Public Hearing - City of Sequim/TBD on Proposed
Budget & Revenue Sources
Public Hearing - Adopting Property Tax Levy
Public Hearing - Fees & Charges

November 26, 2012

Public Hearing—Final Hearing on Proposed
City of Sequim/TBD Budget
Adopt Ordinance—Fees & Charges
Adopt Ordinance—Property Tax Levy
Adopt Ordinance—Approving the 2013 Budget

Utility Discounts Available for Low Income Residents

The City of Sequim recognizes these are tough economic times. To financially assist those struggling to meet their basic needs, utility rate reductions will be available for qualifying low income residents effective for January 2013 usage, pending approval of the City Council. If your income does not exceed 125% of the federal poverty guidelines or \$25,000/year, you may be eligible. There is an additional net asset-based test to determine qualification. The exact amount of your discount will be administratively determined upon receipt of all applications. Qualifying applicants will see the discounted rates on their January usage bill.

Applications are due December 31, 2012 and are available at the following locations: City Hall, DSHS, Sequim Community Aid, St. Vincent de Paul, Serenity House, United Way and the Sequim Senior Center. Applications can also be downloaded from our website at www.sequimwa.gov. Please don't hesitate to call City Hall (360) 683-4139 with your questions.